

Dear Members of the Human Services Committee of Connecticut General Assembly:
My name is Floridalma Jovel Bravo, I am an undocumented mother of two minors, and a resident of New Haven.

I stand in support of S.B. 284: AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FROM EIGHT TO EIGHTEEN YEARS FOR AN INCOME-ELIGIBLE PERSON TO OBTAIN MEDICAL ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF IMMIGRATION STATUS. Expanding access to HUSKY up to age 18 regardless of immigration status is an important step in ensuring our immigrant community has access to the healthcare we need. But our work doesn't end with expanding access up to age 18; we need to open access to HUSKY and healthcare to all immigrants of any age, including parents and adults.

I am from Mexico. I arrived in this country two years ago with my husband and my two children, who have received medical care and very high medical bills. The truth is that I have no way of paying them since I lost my job in the fields because I did not have documents. My husband left us and we are living on the charity of some relatives. They only help us with housing and food but they cannot afford medical expenses since they do not earn enough themselves and they also have their own medical expenses. It is very difficult for all of us with our daily lives. I really like this initiative to help us with insurance for our children.

I support S.B. 284 and I ask the committee to support and pass this legislation. Looking forward, I ask the committee to work towards opening access to all immigrants regardless of age.

Thank you for your time,
Floridalma Jovel